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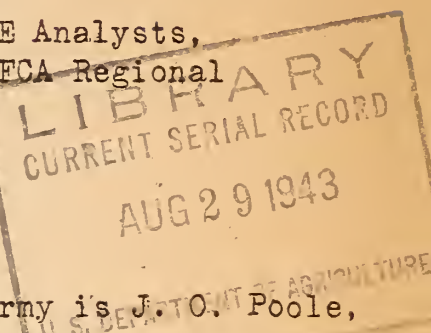
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Subject: How States Are Meeting the Farm Labor Problem (a few local examples)*

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ARKANSAS. An enthusiastic supporter of a women's land army is J. O. Poole, Garland, Arkansas, farmer. Mr. Poole, who operates a Red River bottom farm, was short of labor when it came time to bale his alfalfa hay. Not being able to get men, he placed women on most of the jobs about the baler, using six women and four men to make up his crew. This crew worked better than any he had ever used, Poole told County Agent John Measel. In a day of 8½ hours, 603 heavy bales of hay were put up without the loss of a single bale by a missed tie, and only 3 bales had broken ties. Mr. Poole stated that the bales were extra heavy and that this amount represented at least 25 tons of first-class feed saved.

In Polk County, farm workers, Boy Scouts, townspeople, women, and high school boys and girls were recruited in June to assist with the harvesting of 1,750 acres of blackberries, 650 acres of green beans, and 1,250 acres of Irish potatoes. Workers to harvest the three important food crops were obtained through an extensive recruiting campaign in which ministers, Minutemen, block leaders of the Office of Civilian Defense, local editors, and businessmen cooperated. In rural areas, surplus farm workers were obtained by a house-to-house canvass conducted by the Minutemen, while in town, main activities included a canvass by OCD block leaders, an appeal to church members at Sunday school and church by the ministers, front-page newspaper stories, a full-page "ad" financed by the businessmen of Mena, and the closing of stores to release employees for farm work.

Womanpower is playing a decisive factor in Arkansas' battle for food production as farm girls and women take the place of husbands and sons in the Army or at work in war plants. A Montgomery County farm woman who is doing field work for the first time this year is Mrs. Grover Douglass of the Hopper community. When her husband was unable to hire a farm hand this year, Mrs. Douglass helped to spread fertilizer, haul wood, and do other chores, as well as care for a larger flock of poultry. In Clark County, Mrs. Patrick Lambert and her four daughters are demonstrating the effectiveness of womanpower in operating a farm. Last fall Mr. Lambert and his son left the farm for defense work when the crops were about

* Further details about any of these examples can be obtained locally through county agricultural agents, State extension editors, or the Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

ARKANSAS (Cont'd). half laid-by, after Mrs. Lambert and the girls assured them they could "take over." Mrs. Lambert and Josie, 21; Verona, 17; Laverne, 15; and Iva Joan, 11, harvested 20 loads of hay, 6 loads of fodder, 10 loads of corn, 75 bushels of sweetpotatoes, a bale of cotton, and 4 acres of peanuts. In addition, they canned 700 quarts of food and produced a fall garden and a crop of fall Irish potatoes.

Immediate action was taken recently to recruit farm workers in Arkansas' drought-stricken areas to assist with the harvest of North Dakota's 150,000,000-bushel wheat crop. Arkansas' aid in harvesting this vital food and feed crop was authorized by the State farm labor committee, after assurances from the North Dakota Extension Service that the workers would be returned to the State in time for the cotton and rice harvest. Only workers who could not be given temporary employment within the State were recruited. Members of the State farm labor committee saw in this good-neighbor act an opportunity to aid Arkansas' drought-stricken farmers in finding profitable temporary employment without too much risk of losing them permanently from agriculture.

GEORGIA. Two Georgia counties in widely separated sections of the State are making real strides in solving their farm labor problems, J. William Fanning, emergency farm labor supervisor for the Georgia Agricultural Extension Service, reveals. Old-fashioned labor "swapping" is going a long way to solve the farm labor shortage in Ware County, he reported. There are 1,025 farm families in that county exchanging work and doing a good job of harvesting and marketing tobacco and truck crops. In addition to this neighborhood cooperation, farmers have obtained 25 new farm hands. In Clarke County the Extension Service emergency farm labor assistant has organized a Victory Corps of 28 boys who worked 14½ days or 976 hours on farms in the county. They have been especially successful in working with vegetable and fruit crops. Thirty-four Clarke farm families have found that labor-swapping pays and are helping out on each other's farms. Some farmers who have laid-by their crops are now working on neighbors' farms doing special jobs and helping to finish the crop.

In Bartow County, the county school superintendent, trustees, and teachers in rural schools are cooperating to help overcome the shortage of farm labor by holding a summer-school term. In this way the school children will be available to pick cotton from September 15 to November 1. County Agent M. W. H. Collins also pointed out this week that the mayor and city officials in Cartersville stand ready to help, and the chamber of commerce and other civic organizations have promised 100-percent cooperation. Almost all farmers in the county anticipate a shortage of labor during the cotton-picking season, the county agent said.

More than 200 town and city people in Sumter County, went to fields recently to help farmers gather important war crops, such as cotton and peanuts, County Agent J. K. Luck reports. "Farmers in this county planted around 50,000 acres of peanuts and 16,000 acres of cotton this year, knowing they would need extra help at harvesting time," Luck explained. "Around 1,000 men and boys who formerly helped with farming are now in the service and probably that many more have gone to higher-paying jobs in war industries." City people in Americus are coming to the rescue, the county agent said, pointing out that beginning August 18, Americus stores closed 1 day each week to allow folks in town to go to farms and harvest peanuts and cotton. Each merchant was asked to go to a farm and take someone else along with him.

INDIANA. The problem of detasseling the large acreage of hybrid seed corn in Newton County, was solved by setting up a number of camps for emergency volunteer workers. The largest of these was the Kentland VFW camp, where 500 boys and young men, along with 200 local workers, detasseled about 4,000 acres of corn. Conservative estimates show that the efforts of these patriotic workers will enable farmers to produce enough seed corn to plant about a million and a half acres next spring.

The Indiana Extension Service, through its county agricultural agents, has recruited and placed, since January 1, a total of 20,080 persons for Indiana farmers, who are going all out this year on wartime food production. July was the biggest farm labor month for Purdue extension workers since April, when Congress directed by law that the agricultural extension service be made responsible for handling the difficult farm manpower problem. A total of 8,554 workers were recruited, as compared with 8,480 in June, 2,440 in May, and 606 from January 1 to May 1. Workers were provided farmers to do year-round and seasonal work, to harvest and thresh wheat and other small grains, do general farm work, make hay; and to hybrid seed-corn producers to detassel seed corn.

IOWA. A story, which illustrates how farm folks in many an Iowa community are cooperating so that food production can proceed on all farms, comes from Hardin County: Neighbors of Ray McAllister, farmer, living 5 miles southeast of Eldora, came to work for one afternoon when McAllister went to the hospital for an appendicitis operation. They put 13 loads of hay in the barn, cultivated 65 acres of corn, and spread approximately 70 loads of refuse from a straw-stack bottom. Among the workers was Bud Froning, Eldora businessman, who helped with the haying.

Businessmen and office girls from all parts of Iowa are still flocking to the farms to help farmers meet the labor shortage. In Shelby County, volunteer workers shocked more than 500 acres of small grain and detasseled corn for two evenings on the farm of the Holloway brothers. At Eagle Grove, Belmond, and Dows, in Wright County, many of the town folks went out into the fields and worked from 4 o'clock in the afternoon until late in the evening. Some of the men employed by the town of Eagle Grove spent their vacations doing farm work. Thirty-two people in Clarion detasseled a 30-acre field of hybrid seed corn in one evening.

H. H. Woodward, assistant manager of a department store in Creston, had a lot of satisfaction out of his vacation this year. He spent it on farms, helping out with the job of producing food for war needs. Woodward registered with the Union County farm labor office not long ago, and in short order he was out shocking oats and driving the tractor for Frank Nelson. Frank let him shock the grain and drive the tractor on alternate half-days. Woodward worked there till the job was finished. The rest of his vacation, amounting to about 10 days, he worked on the farm of George Herble.

IOWA. (Cont'd). No crops will go to waste in the Orange City territory, if town folks can help it. Eighty professional and business men, clerks, mechanics, and laborers in Orange City have indicated that they are willing to go out on farms and help harvest the crops. They would work in squads after their regular closing hours. Multiply the number of hours of evening daylight by 80, and the total represents a lot of help to farmers. County agent Harvey Goertz is keeping a list of the volunteer workers for farmers' reference. Progress in meeting labor requirements of farmers also is reported by Fremont County agent Harley Walker. Workers were sent from the farm labor office in Sidney to the asparagus fields on the Missouri River bottoms near Percival, and some recruits were obtained for harvesting peas east of Sidney. Other workers were placed for hay harvest.

Here's haying a hurry! --- Sixty-three businessmen and farmers from the Montezuma community in Poweshiek County put 25 tons of hay into the barn in 1 hour and 15 minutes recently. They did the work on the farm of Harry Mathes. The hay was baled, and they did the hauling with 14 trucks and pick-ups. Most of the helpers previously had signed up with the U. S. Crop Corps and expressed their willingness to help with farm work in emergencies. The emergency was real, because Mr. Mathes had fractured his leg when a horse fell on him. Although his two daughters and his son did most of the farm work after the accident, they were handicapped by wet weather. So the use of these emergency volunteer workers was all that saved the hay crop.

LOUISIANA. Scores of boys and girls of Chatham, have cast aside thoughts of the "ole swimmin' hole," fishing, and other childhood summer vacation pleasures to participate in the harvesting and shipping of several hundred acres of tomatoes--a vital and perishable war crop which is being used as part of the daily diet of thousands of America's men in service throughout the world. This otherwise sleepy North Louisiana town is teeming with activity these days; it may be that when, 2 years ago during army maneuvers throughout this section a sham battle was staged within the corporate limits of Chatham, the citizens of this area witnessed the hardships our soldiers were undergoing in order to train themselves for more serious business of warfare. That was before Pearl Harbor, and settlers of this community had a front-row seat at the dress rehearsal which prepared our soldiers for actual combat service. Residents in and around Chatham are making an all-out contribution during this year's tomato harvesting and shipping season so that this important food crop may be processed and otherwise prepared for thousands of our boys in service in the far-flung corners of the world.

The Battle of the Beans has been fought and won on the farm front of southern Louisiana, where a freckle-faced army of overalled urchins has been hard at work picking thousands of bushels of beans that will help to feed the Nation next fall and winter. In Terrebonne Parish, farmers planted about five times their usual acreage of beans as a wartime emergency measure. It was a big job to harvest the 3,000-acre crop, but everybody pitched in to help. Many city youngsters joined their friends in helping. School officials cooperated by speeding up school work through Saturday sessions in order to close the school year earlier than usual.

MISSISSIPPI. Mississippi is another State that has adopted the good-neighbor policy in helping to solve the farm labor problem. Extension Director L. I. Jones reports that large numbers of farm workers who can be spared for 30 days have gone to North Dakota to help with the harvest of the grain crop. County agents have worked for days recruiting workers for the trek to North Dakota. The agreement is that the workers will return to Mississippi by September 10 in time to help with picking the State's large cotton crop.

MISSOURI. To hundreds of businessmen over the State, the coming of 5 o'clock in the afternoon doesn't mean the end of the working day. It merely means that they close their stores and offices and hurry out to aid farmers in shocking wheat or oats or in putting up hay. In Lafayette County, more than 2,000 acres of small grains have been shocked by these volunteer farm workers. From one town, Higginville, 40 to 60 men, boys, and girls have gone out each day to shock the grain. Several other towns in the county have sent similar groups to farms each evening. The ages of the workers there vary greatly. One 76-year-old grocer and a 14-year-old girl have been among the most regular of those to help. In Cass County, 47 different men and 12 Boy Scouts have been U. S. Crop Corps workers since June 24. Some of the men and boys have gone out each day, and are given credit for saving several hundred acres of small grains.

Nonfarm workers, mostly businessmen working after 6 o'clock in the evening, shocked 504 acres of oats and wheat in the trade territory of Lamar, in a 2-week period, says County Agent Merle Vaughan. The workers included 48 Lamar businessmen, 12 youths, and 10 Italian prisoners of war. On the John Carruthers farm, 6 girls shocked 25 acres of oats in one evening's work.... In Carroll County, 10 teams of business and professional men, representing the Carrollton Chamber of Commerce, work when and where they are needed to assist in emergency grain shocking, hay harvest, or other farm tasks. Their regular schedule is to eat supper in town, report for work on the farms at 6 p.m. and work until dark. They receive a uniform payment of 50 cents an hour for the time they are at work.

The businessmen in two Chariton County towns so far have hauled and stored 1,454 bales of hay and shocked 368 acres of grain....in addition to doing some other farm work. These U. S. Crop Corps members went out in the evening and spent a total of some 318 hours in the fields. Of course, not all calls could be answered. And at times there were not enough men to go round, but most of the calls from farmers were answered and the work was done in a satisfactory manner.

Volunteer Crop Corps workers in Caldwell County have pitched in to save food and feed crops on 75 farms in the county. Cases have been reported where grain bundles had to be left on the ground for a week, with no help available for shocking, until the volunteer crew came along. This timely aid has enabled farmers to continue cultivation in their corn fields or to reach other pressing jobs. The volunteer workers have given distinct service and are building up a fine attitude of cooperation between town and farm families.

MONTANA. From all parts of Montana comes interesting stories of how town and city folks are proving of real assistance to farmers and ranchers. For example, a Dillon woman has the man-size job of riding herd for 2,000 head of beef cattle. She has the sole responsibility for keeping the large herd inside its grazing limits, and her "boss" says she is doing a great job. But that's not all she is doing. She winds up each day by cooking for her small sons and other occupants of the ranch, as well as doing some of the regular housework. Up in Teton County, the city editor of a newspaper in Kentucky who is spending his vacation at his boyhood home of Choteau was asked to help with the hay harvest. Although he had not had a pitchfork in his hands for 20 years, he soon regained his agrarian talents to the extent that he was promoted to the job of piloting a bull rake. Also, a member of the faculty of the Gallatin County High School is working this summer on a ranch of the Musselshell country. He says he finds ranch work an excellent conditioner for the long winter of intensive indoor work.

NEBRASKA. More than 125 boys and girls in Scotts Bluff County, in western Nebraska, helped to lick the bean problem on farms in that area! Responding to a call for help, boys and girls hoed the beans for several growers. The Scotts Bluff Star-Herald credited them with helping to save thousands of acres of beans which otherwise might have been destroyed by weeds. The story in the Star-Herald said in part: "On the youth front, the news was all good--so good, in fact, that employment heads reported the bean problem had been all but licked. Most of the orders for bean hoers center around Mitchell, with a few isolated calls. That means several hundred volunteer youths from throughout the country--most of them without farm experience--have in a few short days saved about 50,000 acres of beans from being destroyed by weeds. Their efforts, added to those of farm families and seasonal hired hands, have bridged the labor gap. Many of the youths were from Scotts Bluff."

Taking care of turkeys instead of taking dictation is one of the wartime responsibilities of Louise Stahly, of Hickman, since she joined the Women's Land Army. Because it was impossible for her father, A. R. Stahly, to find a hired man, Louise gave up her position at a hatchery to help out on the farm. The Stahlys have 3,500 turkeys, 1,000 chickens, and about 100 hogs, and are farming 400 acres. The older brother, Robert, and the father are responsible for the farming operations, while Louise and the little brother, Arlo, help Mrs. Stahly with the turkeys, chickens, garden, and canning. Louise has attended the college of agriculture for 3 years and completed a stenographic course at the Lincoln business college. Last fall she left an insurance job to help husk the corn. This is the second season she has worked at a hatchery. She was released there early because of the labor shortage at home.

Twelve city women from Lincoln got a taste of real farm work the other day when they detasseled hybrid corn on the Lyle Peterson farm near Ashland. The women, clad in various types of work clothes, spent about 8 hours each detasseling the seed corn. But, they did not walk on the job. Instead, they rode a mechanical outfit and stood while they pulled the tassels from the corn. The sun was hot, and the morning dew on the corn was heavy, but the women apparently did not seem to mind. In fact, more of them decided to return to the Ashland area for another turn at the detasseling. All the women represent the Women's Division of the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce.

NEVADA. More than 2,000 placements of farm laborers have been made in the State by the Nevada Agricultural Extension Service this growing season. All requests of farmers and ranchers for general farm help in planting, cultivating, and harvesting their crops and taking care of necessary farm work have been met so far, but there is still a shortage of skilled farm workers. Since the peak labor season of the year is now here, it is probable that none of the State's crops will go unharvested, provided the labor supply, as it has so far, holds up, according to Otto Schulz, the farm labor supervisor of the Extension Service, which is in charge of the farm labor program in the State. Of the emergency workers on farms and ranches, more than 600 are Victory Farm Volunteers of high school boys and girls.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. Faced with the most acute labor problem since the last war, New Hampshire farmers are licking the manpower shortage through cooperation, and with the help of older boys and girls, women, and white-collar and war industry workers who are patriotic enough to give part of their time to farm labor. A Cambridge Girl Scout camp in Ossipee is contracting to do the bean harvesting on the Drinkwater farm in that town in August. Applications have also been received from girls in Northfield Seminary and Radcliffe College.

NEW YORK. Volunteers who enrolled in Niagara County's emergency farm labor mobilization have had an important part in saving the currant and cherry crops through part-time work during the past 3 weeks. Men, women, boys, and girls, working at prevailing farm wages, have achieved results that have surprised farmers who hesitated to make use of green help, Richard Archibald, chairman of the enlistment campaign, said here today. In 1 day at the height of the cherry-picking season, 19 Kiwanians set the pace by picking half a ton of cherries in 4 hours at the Fayette Pease farm, where they received 3 cents a pound. The city judge, assistant district attorney, court stenographer, Congregational minister, Salvation Army adjutant, bankers, clothiers, contractors, undertakers, store managers, and industrial executives worked side by side in doing a clean-cut job of clearing trees of luscious fruit.

Conditioning of New York high school boys, recruited in the Farm Cadet Victory Corps, is proceeding smoothly at the State agricultural school, with all 23 boys of the first contingent now on Delaware and Otsego County dairy farms, and with a second group now receiving training. The first boy left for a farm job within 3 days; the others were all at work on farms before the second group arrived. There will be little delay in placing these boys as fast as they are ready, Director H. L. Smith declares, because demand is urgent, as farmers are anxious to get the cadets as quickly as possible. These youth are known nationally as Victory Farm Volunteers of the U. S. Crop Corps.

NORTH CAROLINA. Lillian Hines, 13-year old 4-H Club girl, and her brother, Junior Hines, 10, children of Mr. and Mrs. Miller Hines of the Newhope Community in Polk County, have done practically all of the work in plowing and hoeing a 12-acre field of cotton this year, reports County Agent J. A. Wilson of the State Extension Service. Junior has been so busy with the plowing for the whole farm that he has been able to give only a small amount of help to his sister. They are taking the place of three older children, one of whom is in the Army and the other two at work in defense plants, Wilson said.

NORTH CAROLINA (Cont'd). Henderson County farmers answered the Government's call this year for more food to help win the war by stepping up their bean plantings to 10,000 acres -- about twice the normal acreage. But when the early crop began to come in about the last of May, the regular farm workers and the transient labor that normally harvests the bean crop was nowhere to be found. Despite these handicaps, however, the early bean crop of 200,000 bushels was saved, and the later crop also is being saved, County Agent Glenn D. White reports. With 2,000 acres of beans ready for harvest and continued rains slowing up the work, the plight of the farmers reached the ears of the city people in Hendersonville, the county seat. The Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary, Lions, and Kiwanis Clubs, and other local organizations began campaigning to get city people to the farms to help harvest the bean crop. The stores in Hendersonville agreed to close two afternoons a week to allow their employees to help pick beans. From this little city of 5,300 people, 700 turned out for picking. Henderson County's million-bushel bean crop is giving a big boost to the food production program in 1943.

Children are doing the work of grown-ups; women are helping their husbands with the plowing; untrained workers are operating tractors and combines; everyone is fighting the farm labor shortage on the home front. Fred S. Sloan, State program leader for the Extension Service at State College, reported here today. For example, the 12-year-old daughter of the Crown Ratchfords in Gaston County has formed a combine team with her older brother, and together they have harvested many acres of small grain not only on the home farm but also throughout the Costner Section. After his brother has come in from a day of combining wheat and oats, Charlie Cloninger of Route 1, Dallas, also 12 years old, took his brother's tractor and used it to cultivate row crops during the night. J. Conder Armstrong, also of Gaston County, was having his labor troubles too, so his daughter obtained a 2-week furlough from the WACS and came home to operate the tractor while her father ran the binder.

Solving the farm labor problem is not always a matter of hiring additional workers. Sometimes community cooperation is the answer. Staley Fulton, of the Belew Creek Community, of Forsyth County, recently received his honorable discharge from the Army to allow him to return to war-vital farm work. His main problem, however, was that he had been forced to sell his livestock and abandon his farming operations at the time he was drafted into the Army. Within a few days after his return to the farm, however, his neighbors, with 8 horses and a tractor, came in and helped him break his land and put in his crops.

OREGON. Basic training completed, a youthful army of six or eight divisions has begun an all-out attack in various parts of Oregon. It is Oregon's contribution to the Victory Farm Volunteers of the U. S. Crop Corps. This army, comprising 75,000 to 100,000 "troops," is clad in overalls and sneakers, slacks and "saddles," and other odds-and-ends of clothing that can take it when the going in the field gets tough. And it is an army that will fight, for the most part, with its hands. But despite absence of weapons and uniforms, this army will be one of the most important cogs in the allied war machine. For these are the "soldiers of the soil," the junior food army upon whose efforts will depend, to a large extent, how well-filled will be Oregon's breadbasket during the next year of war, how well-fed will be our armed forces.

SOUTH CAROLINA. Farm people of South Carolina are meeting the farm labor shortage to best advantage with what they have of labor and equipment, so that agricultural production has not yet lagged much, despite great handicaps, thinks J. M. Eleazer, Clemson extension information specialist. Recounting observations on a recent trip, Mr. Eleazer says: "Away into the night, as I was returning from upstate, a strange bobbing light across the field marked a tractor doing war duty. A neighbor had borrowed it from the owner, and it never stopped. This is one way our farms with only about 75 percent of normal labor supply are stepping-up their production by a fourth to a third."

TENNESSEE. Pitching hay side by side in one field recently were the town mayor, a merchant, a banker, a county trustee, a vocational-agriculture teacher, a county agent, the farm operator, and a farm hand. This example of democracy and action occurred on the farm of C. A. Pettyjohn in the Liberty community of Benton County. Mr. Pettyjohn had come to the county agent's office in Camden looking for workers to help save an 8-acre field of red-clover hay. There was no farm labor to be had, but since it was Thursday afternoon and all the stores in Camden were closed, the county agent called six men whom he knew and told them of the emergency. They agreed to go out to the Pettyjohn farm that afternoon and work, and so the hay crop was saved.

TEXAS. Farmers of Camp County planted and harvested 1,100 acres of Irish potatoes this year. Pretty soon they found the spuds piled high to the roofs of the potato houses waiting to be graded, sacked, and shipped, but there was no labor to do the work. However, with the help of local leaders in the little town of Pittsburg, the county agricultural agent recruited about 50 men who agreed to work in the sheds from 6 o'clock in the evening to midnight. This group of volunteers included the postmaster, newspaper editor, a Methodist preacher, the owners of the bottling works, and crews from the gas company and a local furniture factory, in addition to the county agent. The workers were taught in a few minutes how to grade the potatoes and throw out the rotten ones. Despite their inexperience, they graded, sacked, and loaded nearly 4 carloads a night. By working five nights, the volunteer crews saved the biggest Irish-potato crop in the history of Camp County. In all, the county shipped out 165 carloads and between 40 and 50 truck-loads of potatoes -- a crop which brought growers about \$175,000.

Boys and girls have been doing a great job on Texas farms. For instance, Johnnie Woods, 14, of the Haney Valley community in Mills County, ran his father's combine all during the harvest season, cutting grain for neighbors in the community. And Johnnie's brother and cousin, both 12 years old, did the sacking of the grain. Imogene Holley, member of the Downard 4-H Club in Cooke County, helped to chop 50 acres of cotton and shock 130 acres of grain last month. Twice a day she milks 5 cows and feeds 200 chickens, reports Onah Jacks, State girls' club agent of the Texas Extension Service. In Llano County, farmers have been coming into the county seat to pick up boys who help hoe-out peanuts. Nadine Edward, 14, of the Tennessee Colony 4-H Club in Anderson County has really made a "field hand" this year. First, she broke 25 acres of land with a tractor...Then she helped fix fences, and later planted corn, tomatoes, peas, and peanuts. Just lately she's helped harvest 4 acres of tomatoes...Other hard-working farm girls include Thelma and Velma Collier of Tyler County who milk 18 cows night and morning for their father. He operates a milk route out of Beaumont. One of the best farm labor jobs in the State has been done in Brown County. In June, 2,028 town and city youths had registered and been placed on farms by County Agricultural Agent C. W. Lehmberg. They've harvested green beans, picked berries, baled hay, and done other similar jobs.

WEST VIRGINIA. The need for emergency farm labor hasn't bothered the residents of the little community of Porters Falls, in Wetzel County. They have their own way of solving the problem. Employees of two local companies who live in Porters Falls have organized a Farm Labor Club. On their days off from their regular work, these employees of the two companies spend the time aiding the farmers in the neighborhood in any particular seasonal activity. Some of the club members have farms or large gardens of their own. So they spend their time off engaging in their own food-production activities.

WISCONSIN. Businessmen of Oregon, Wis., have aided in harvesting about 250 acres of grain in this community. Before the season is over they expect to help with more than double this acreage. Owen Richards, local banker, and H. J. Morrissey, agricultural teacher in the high school, head the local businessmen's committee on farm labor.

St. Croix County, with the biggest hay crop in its history, is doing a record job of gathering haying help. Every community in the county has been combed for able-bodied workers. From the village of Baldwin, with less than a thousand people, 80 men are at haying. Local leaders in each village have directed the mobilization. In many cases town businesses are closing. Often women stay to operate the store while the men go out to the hay fields. Rough estimates of the average hay crop are as high as 3 tons to the acre. St. Croix has about 80,000 acres of tame hay. The enormous crop is intensifying a problem brought on by existing farm labor shortages.

Rock County hasn't lost a pound of canning peas because of labor shortages, County Agent R. T. Glassco has reported to the Wisconsin Extension Service. Glassco gave high praise to both city and farm people in the county. Farmers worked together, and town folk turned out to help. "A large number of older high school boys have been out to help with the peas," he wrote.

Northern Wisconsin Indians are helping to meet the farm labor shortage. Ralph Jolliffe, formerly farm labor assistant for Forest and Florence Counties, reports that at least 40 families went to Door County for the cherry harvest and will go to Vilas County for potato harvesting. Indian groups generally travel and work in family units. Northern Wisconsin Indian tribes are said to have men on almost every American battle line.

A crew of city people rolled up their sleeves and saved 32 tons of hay for a Shawano County farmer one night recently. The hay, 10 acres of it, had been beaten down by a rain storm. It was being handled by a custom baler, but Farmer Lawrence Derby didn't see how he and his family could get it hauled in before another rain storm came along. He called the county farm labor office, and Placement Supervisor H. W. Wright and Assistant County Agent Russell O'Harrow went into action. They had already obtained a promise from 25 Shawano businessmen to help whenever there was danger of food or feed being wasted. About half past four, the volunteer crew gathered at the Derby farm. The district attorney, a butter-maker, the city treasurer, county treasurer, relief director, hotel night clerk, assistant county agent, placement supervisor and his daughter, several neighboring farmers, and a few other city volunteers went to work. All 650 bales were in the barn by 9 p.m. The volunteers are back at their normal jobs now, but ready for any future emergency.

WYOMING. Miss Martha White, a member of the Stanton School faculty, of Laramie, is using her vacation time in helping with the food production program which is so vital for Wyoming, according to Art Hay, county agricultural agent. She is located for the summer at the T. S. Garrett Ranch at Garrett. Her activities include helping with the housework, assisting with the Victory Garden, and aiding with the canning. Later she plans to go to the hay field if the need arises. The need for help on the ranch prompted Miss White to leave a job in Minneapolis, Minn., to come back to the county. She said, "I am happy to be here rather than in a hot city. The work is invigorating and interesting, and it is different from what I do in the wintertime. I have never even worked in the garden before." Mr. Garrett reported that weeds have disappeared in the garden since she has been there, and that she is invaluable on the ranch this summer. Miss White, because of her activities, is a member of the Women's Land Army and will be entitled to the WLA insignia, which will be awarded to women in Wyoming who are helping with the food-production program on ranches and farms.

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